

Message Text

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ORIGIN ACDA-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 EA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 SS-15
PM-05 OES-09 SIG-03 SOE-02 ARA-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NASA-01 NEA-10 NSAE-00 NSC-05
OIC-02 SP-02 PA-01 DOE-15 CEQ-01 ICA-11 NRC-05
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APPROVED BY IO:GBHELMAN
T/D:LSCHINMAN
IO/UNP:DADAMSON
PM/NPP:CSTEINER (SUBS)
OES/NET:RDEMING
IO/SCT:AJILLSON
ACDA/MA:CFLOWERREE
EUR/RPE:WSALISBURY (SUBS)
EUR/SOV:KBROWN (INFO)

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PRAIA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY VIENNA
USMISSION GENEVA
USMISSION USNATO

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 195526

USIAEA, CCD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, TECH

SUBJECT: US VIEWS ON 1977 UN RESOLUTION ON PEACEFUL USES
OF NUCLEAR ENERGY FOR ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

REF: USUN A-534

1. BY LETTER OF JUNE 15 THE SECRETARY GENERAL REQUESTED MEMBER STATE VIEWS PURSUANT TO OPERATIVE PARAS 4 AND 5 OF RESOLUTION 32/50 ADOPTED BY CONSENSUS DURING LAST FALL'S UNGA. THESE PARAS READ AS FOLLOWS: (QUOTE)

-- 4. (BEGIN UNDERLINE) INVITES (END UNDERLINE) ALL STATES TO CONSIDER CONVENING, AT AN APPROPRIATE STAGE, AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OR CONFERENCES, UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM, AIMED AT PROMOTING INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION IN THE PEACEFUL USES OF NUCLEAR ENERGY IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE OBJECTIVES OF THE PRESENT RESOLUTION;

-- 5. (BEGIN UNDERLINE) REQUESTS (END UNDERLINE) THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TO INVITE ALL STATES TO COMMUNICATE TO HIM THEIR VIEWS, OBSERVATIONS AND SUGGESTIONS ON SUCH A CONFERENCE AND REQUESTS HIM TO SUBMIT A REPORT THEREON TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AT ITS THIRTY-THIRD SESSION. (END QUOTE)

2. THIS RESOLUTION WAS SPONSORED BY THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AS AN EXPRESSION OF THEIR CONCERN ABOUT THE CONFIDENTIAL

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RESTRICTIVE POLICIES OF THE SUPPLIER STATES AND TO COUNTER A FINNISH RESOLUTION THAT WAS MUCH WIDER IN SCOPE AND EXPRESSED SUPPORT FOR THE NPT, IAEA SAFEGUARDS, ETC. AFTER SOME SUCCESS IN MODERATING THE ORIGINAL DRAFT, THE US JOINED THE CONSENSUS ADOPTING THE RESOLUTION WITH A STATEMENT EXPRESSING CONCERN OVER THE LACK OF BALANCE IN THE RESOLUTION RE NON-PROLIFERATION CONCERNS.

3. A FEW DAYS AGO A UK EMBASSY OFFICIAL INFORMED US OF THE GENERAL POSITION HMG PLANS TO TAKE ON THE REQUEST FOR VIEWS MENTIONED IN PARA 1 ABOVE. THEY DO NOT FAVOR SUCH A CONFERENCE SINCE IT WOULD ONLY SERVE TO EXACERBATE THE NORTH-SOUTH POLEMICS ON NUCLEAR ENERGY AND COULD CUT ACROSS WORK BEING DONE BY THE IAEA AND INFCE. UK OFFICIAL ALSO POINTED OUT THAT SUCH A CONFERENCE COULD BE MORE EFFECTIVELY RESISTED IF THERE WAS A FAIRLY GENERAL RESPONSE FROM STATES SIMILARLY CONCERNED ABOUT THE NEED TO AVOID FURTHER NORTH-SOUTH POLEMICS ON THIS SUBJECT.

4. FRG EMBASSY OFFICIAL ALSO CONTACTED DEPT TO GIVE US FRG VIEWS ON THE QUESTION. FRG BELIEVES THE CONFERENCE IS A GOOD IDEA. HOWEVER, THEY WOULD WANT TO WAIT FOR THE RESULTS OF INFCE AND THE NPT REVIEW CONFERENCE IN 1980 AND PLAN TO SUGGEST THAT THE IAEA'S SECOND SALZBURG CONFERENCE IN 1981 MIGHT BE CONCEIVED AS A SUBSTITUTE FOR THE UN CONFERENCE ORIGINALLY PROPOSED IN RESOLUTION 32/50. THE GERMANS WOULD PREFER TO HAVE ANY CONFERENCE RESULTING FROM

THIS RESOLUTION IN AN IAEA FORUM.

5. USG ADOPTED A POSITION SIMILAR TO THAT OF UK ON THE IDEA OF SUCH A CONFERENCE DURING LAST FALL'S UNGA. AS A RESULT WE WERE SUCCESSFUL IN GETTING RESOLUTION LANGUAGE SOFTENED FROM CALLING FOR A CONFERENCE TO A REQUEST FOR VIEWS. WE ALSO AGREE WITH THE UK THAT WE SHOULD URGE OTHER LIKE-MINDED STATES TO TAKE A SIMILAR POSITION SO THAT THE SECRETARY-GENERAL'S REPORT WILL CONTAIN A REASONABLE
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BALANCE OF VIEWS. CONFRONTATION AT SSOD OVER NUCLEAR ENERGY/NON-PROLIFERATION ISSUE AND ITS UNSATISFACTORY OUT-COME ON THIS POINT FURTHER REINFORCES OUR VIEW THAT ANY SUCH CONFERENCE COULD NOT PROMOTE OUR NON-PROLIFERATION INTERESTS, AT LEAST NOT IN THE PRESENT CLIMATE.

6. ACTION POSTS SHOULD APPROACH HOST GOVERNMENTS AT AN APPROPRIATE LEVEL DRAWING ON US POSITION AS OUTLINED BELOW AND URGE THEM TO CONSIDER RESPONDING ALONG SIMILAR LINES. YOU MAY WISH TO INFORM THEM OF UK POSITION AND APPROACH TO US AND THAT WE BELIEVE THE UK MAY HAVE MADE A SIMILAR

APPROACH TO HOST GOVERNMENT. IF A RESPONSE HAS ALREADY BEEN PROVIDED (VIEWS WERE REQUESTED BY JULY 15), YOU SHOULD ASCERTAIN HOST GOVERNMENT POSITION AND ENCOURAGE THEM TO KEEP US VIEWS IN MIND IN CONNECTION WITH ANY FURTHER ACTION ON THIS ISSUE DURING THE FALL UNGA. POSTS REQUESTED TO REPORT THE RESULTS OF THESE APPROACHES.

7. FOR LONDON: WE WILL INFORM UK EMBASSY AND YOU SHOULD INFORM APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS IN LONDON OF OUR POSITION EXPRESSING APPRECIATION FOR THEIR EARLIER APPROACH WHICH PROMPTED USG TO TAKE ACTION.

8. FOR MOSCOW: IN APPROACHING USSR OFFICIALS YOU MAY WISH TO URGE THEM TO ENCOURAGE SIMILAR ACTION ON THE PART OF EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES.

9. FOR USUN: REQUEST THAT YOU RESPOND TO SECRETARY-GENERAL'S JUNE 15 REQUEST USING TEXT BEGINNING IN PARA 10 BELOW WITH APPROPRIATE COMPLIMENTARY PHRASES. FURTHER, YOU MAY WISH TO INFORM APPROPRIATE MISSIONS IN NEW YORK OF US POSITION AND THAT WE WILL BE MAKING APPROACHES IN CAPITALS
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URGING A SIMILAR RESPONSE.

10. BEGIN TEXT: THE US CONTINUES TO FAVOR THE STRENGTHENING OF COOPERATION IN THE PEACEFUL USES OF ATOMIC ENERGY.

THIS WAS REAFFIRMED MOST RECENTLY BY AMBASSADOR YOUNG ON JUNE 9 DURING A STATEMENT TO THE AD HOC COMMITTEE OF THE UN SSOD. WE BELIEVE THAT PEACEFUL NUCLEAR COOPERATION MUST TAKE THE PRIMACY OF NON-PROLIFERATION CONCERNS INTO ACCOUNT AND THAT SUCH CONSIDERATIONS NEED NOT BE IN CONFLICT WITH, AND INDEED WILL ENHANCE, THE CONTRIBUTION THAT NUCLEAR ENERGY MAKES TO ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT.

11. WHILE THE US JOINED THE CONSENSUS ON RESOLUTION 32/50 FROM THE 1977 UNGA SESSION, WE WERE NEVERTHELESS CONCERNED ABOUT THE LACK OF BALANCE IN THE RELEVANT DOCUMENTS CONCERNING THE NON-PROLIFERATION DANGERS ASSOCIATED WITH THE SPREAD OF NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES. ALL NATIONS DESERVE TO SHARE IN THE BENEFITS ASSOCIATED WITH CONTINUED PEACEFUL NUCLEAR DEVELOPMENT. HOWEVER, SUCH A FUTURE CAN ONLY BE ASSURED THROUGH UNIVERSAL COOPERATION IN ESTABLISHING CONDITIONS FOR ITS SAFE USE.

12. WITH REGARD TO OPERATIVE PARAGRAPHS 4 AND 5, AT THE PRESENT TIME THE US COULD NOT SUPPORT THE CONVENING OF SUCH A CONFERENCE. WE DO NOT BELIEVE THAT ANY TIME IN THE NEAR FUTURE COULD REPRESENT -- IN THE LANGUAGE OF THE RESOLUTION -- "AN APPROPRIATE STAGE." IN 1979 PREPARATIONS MUST BEGIN FOR THE NPT REVIEW CONFERENCE TO BE HELD IN 1980.

IT IS CLEAR THAT DISCUSSIONS INVOLVING THIS VERY IMPORTANT MEETING WILL OFFER AMPLE OPPORTUNITY TO CARRY ON A DIALOGUE "AIMED AT PROMOTING INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IN THE PEACEFUL USES OF NUCLEAR ENERGY."

13. THE INTERNATIONAL NUCLEAR FUEL CYCLE EVALUATION (INFCE) IS CURRENTLY UNDERWAY AND WILL EXTEND INTO LATE 1979. THIS
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PROVIDES ANOTHER FORUM FOR EXCHANGING VIEWS ON THE SUBJECT OF THE RESOLUTION.

14. THE 1979 UN CONFERENCE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY WILL OFFER AN OPPORTUNITY FOR DISCUSSING THE GENERAL PROBLEM OF TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER TO THE DEVELOPING WORLD -- WHICH IS THE GENERAL FRAMEWORK WITHIN WHICH THE SUBJECT OF RESOLUTION 32/50 FALLS.

15. THE US BELIEVES THAT THE IAEA AND ANY EXISTING REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS ARE THE BEST MULTILATERAL MECHANISMS FOR PROMOTING PEACEFUL NUCLEAR COOPERATION. THE IAEA CONTINUES TO OFFER A VARIETY OF PROGRAMS, MEETINGS, AND CONFERENCES AIMED AT FOSTERING PEACEFUL USES OF THE ATOM, WITH PARTICULAR FOCUS ON THE DEVELOPING WORLD. THE ANNUAL IAEA GENERAL CONFERENCE WHICH IS HELD EACH FALL OFFERS A FORUM FOR DISCUSSION OF THIS SUBJECT. THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS HAS SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPING COUNTRY REPRESENTATION AND PROVIDES

AN OPPORTUNITY TO EXERCISE CONSIDERABLE INFLUENCE OVER PROGRAMS AIMED AT CONTRIBUTING TO THE LEGITIMATE NUCLEAR ENERGY NEEDS OF THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. WE BELIEVE THAT THE OBJECTIVES OF THE RESOLUTION COULD BE MORE EASILY PROMOTED BY UTILIZING THE ONLY EXISTING INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTION WITHIN THE UN SYSTEM ESTABLISHED FOR THIS PURPOSE -- THE IAEA.

16. IN THAT CONNECTION, THE IAEA IS PROCEEDING WITH PLANS TO HOLD ANOTHER SALZBURG CONFERENCE IN 1981 FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISCUSSING FUEL CYCLE OPTIONS. SUCH A CONFERENCE WOULD SERVE AS YET ANOTHER FORUM FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF ISSUES SIMILAR TO THOSE RAISED IN RESOLUTION 32/50.

17. FRANKLY, IT IS DIFFICULT FOR US TO SEE HOW THE
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OBJECTIVES OF RESOLUTION 32/50 COULD BE SERVED BY ANY INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE THAT TAKES PLACE WITHOUT A MAJOR ROLE FOR THE IAEA. ACCORDINGLY, IT IS THE US VIEW THAT SHOULD ANY CONFERENCE EVER TAKE PLACE PURSUANT TO THIS RESOLUTION, IT SHOULD BE HELD UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE IAEA.

18. THE FOREGOING RECITATION OF MEETINGS AND CONFERENCES RELATED TO PEACEFUL NUCLEAR COOPERATION IS EXTENSIVE AND

THESE CONFERENCES ARE LIKELY TO STRAIN THE TIME AND RESOURCES OF EVEN THE LARGER STATES. FOR THIS REASON ALONE WE ARE PERSUADED THAT THERE IS NO NEED FOR THE CONFERENCE SUGGESTED IN THE RESOLUTION.

19. IN CONCLUSION, WHILE SUPPORTING THE OBJECTIVES SUCH A CONFERENCE WOULD PROMOTE -- THE US BELIEVES THERE ARE ADEQUATE OPPORTUNITIES TO PROMOTE DISCUSSION OF THIS SUBJECT IN THE NEAR FUTURE AND THAT ANOTHER SUCH MEETING WOULD BE AN UNNECESSARY DUPLICATION OF WORK. VANCE

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